

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CU-02 AID-05 /062 W
----- 002076

R 272045Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1546

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 7809

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CI, SOCI, PINT

SUBJ: NEW PRO-RECTOR OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPOINTED

REF: SANTIAGO 7469

1. CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS NAMED A SUBSTITUTE ("PRO") GRAND CHANCELLOR FOR THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IN SANTIAGO TO REPLACE RAUL CARDINAL SILVA WHO "SUSPENDED" HIMSELF FROM THE POSITION ON OCT 25. AS NOTED REFTEL, CARDINAL SILVA HAD DETERMINED NOT TO CONFRONT GOC ON BASIC QUESTION OF WHO IS TO RUN CATHOLIC UNIV. AND REMOVED HIMSELF FROM DIRECT INVOLVEMENT BY STEPPING OUT OF ROLE AS GRAND CHANCELLOR.

2. NEW PRO-GRAND CHANCELLOR NAMED IN CHURCH DECREE DEC 5 IS MONSEÑOR JORGE MEDINA ESTEVEZ, CHILEAN PRIEST WITH EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND IN ACADEMIC AFFAIRS. HE HAS BEEN PROFESSOR AT CATHOLIC UNIV. ACCORDING PRESS, MEDINA IS PRESENTLY IN ROME.

3. COMMENT. AS NOTED IN REFTEL, CHURCH AND CARDINAL ARE UNWILLING AT PRESENT TO PROVOKE OPEN BATTLE WITH GOC OVER CONTROL OF UNIVERSITY. APPOINTMENT OF MEDINA INTERPOSES LAYER OF INSULATION BETWEEN GOC-APPOINTED RECTOR OF
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CATHOLIC U. AND CARDINAL HIMSELF, THUS PRESUMABLY REDUCING

CHANCES FOR DIRECT, FIRST-INSTANCE GOC-CHURCH CONFRONTATION.
INDICATION OF UNDERLYING TENSION IS STATEMENT IN CHURCH DECREE
THAT MEDINA WILL HOLD JOB "AS LONG AS NO OTHER ARRANGEMENT IS
MADE."
POPPER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, CHURCH SCHOOLS, CHURCH STATE RELATIONS, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANTIA07809
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740376-0247
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974128/aaaaagcv.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 SANTIAGO 7469
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <31 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW PRO-RECTOR OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPOINTED
TAGS: SOCI, PINT, CI, US, (SILVA, RAUL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005